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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Tatsuya Ishizuka **Examiner:** John P. Leubecker
Serial No: 10/687,184 **Art Unit:** 3739
Filed: October 16, 2003 **Docket:** 14867A
For: ENDOSCOPE SUITABLE FOR
AUTOCLAVING **Dated:** September 5, 2006
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Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.114

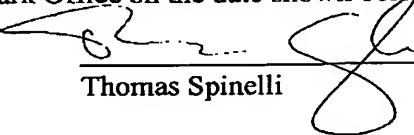
Sir:

In response to the Final Official Action dated June 6, 2006, Applicants have filed a Request For Continued Examination (RCE) herewith along with the present Preliminary Amendment. Applicants respectfully request that, prior to examination, the above-identified application be amended as follows:

CERTIFICATION OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this paper is being facsimile transmitted to facsimile number 571-273-8300 at the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on the date shown below.

Dated: September 5, 2006


Thomas Spinelli